



# **Brownfields 2009 Cleanup Grant Fact Sheet**

## **Flagstaff, AZ**



### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Recovery Act is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, and create or save millions of jobs. This law provided stimulus funds to the Brownfields Program to award grants to evaluate and clean up former industrial and commercial sites. Under this law, EPA will provide financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants.

### **Community Description**

The City of Flagstaff was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Located along Route 66, Flagstaff (population 61,270) was originally built for the railroad and timber industries. The decline in these industries and the obsolescence of Route 66 as a viable cross-country transportation corridor have left a legacy of brownfields and sprawl reaching into the surrounding forest lands. These brownfields include welding shops, industrial facilities, and railroad structures. Many of the sites are vacant, abandoned, or underused. The Creosote Pit site is located near residential neighborhoods and local businesses. It has been a community eyesore and environmental nuisance for years. About 30 other sites are located within one mile of the target property. The city also estimates that another 20 to 35 sites will be identified through ongoing assessments. Thirty-six percent of target area residents are Hispanic, and the median household income in the area is less than half the city median. Cleanup of the site will help mitigate the environmental health impacts of the site and remove blight from the community.

### **Cleanup Grant**

#### ***\$126,900 for hazardous substances (Recovery Act Funding)***

EPA has selected the City of Flagstaff for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Route 66 Creosote Pit Cleanup and Redevelopment Project at 116 Phoenix Avenue. Between 1916 and the 1950s, a wood preservation vat was operated by a steam and electric generating facility at the site, leaving behind soil contaminated with polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons and metals. Grant funds will be used to plan and conduct the cleanup.

### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team  
(415) 972-3091  
EPA Region 9 Brownfields Web site  
(<http://www.epa.gov/region9/brownfields>)

Grant Recipient: City of Flagstaff, AZ  
(928) 213-3602

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.